

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (Currently amended) A self cleaning dental mirror comprising:

an elongated handle;

a reflective surface affixed to a first end of said elongated handle;

means for communicating air through said elongated handle to at least one air orifice directing air at said reflective surface;

means for communicating water through said elongated handle to at least one water orifice directing air at said reflective surface;

an air valve means incorporated within said elongated handle for controlling air flow to said at least one air orifice directing air at said reflective surface; and

a water valve means incorporated within said elongated handle for controlling water flow to said at least one water orifice directing water at said reflective surface;

wherein said air valve means and said water valve means comprise field replaceable pushbutton valves; and

wherein all components are autoclavable to withstand high temperatures, high pressure sterilization, said field replaceable pushbutton valves comprising autoclavable O-rings.

Claim 2 (Cancelled)

Claim 3 (Cancelled)

Claim 4 (Cancelled)

Claim 5 (Currently amended) The self cleaning dental mirror of Claim [2] 1 further comprising means for removing and replacing said reflective surface and means for aligning said reflective surface with said field replaceable pushbutton valves, said

means for aligning said reflective surface with said field replaceable valves being formed in said handle.

Claim 6 (Cancelled)

Claim 7 (Cancelled)

Claim 8 (Currently amended) The self cleaning dental mirror of Claim 1 further comprising a means for aligning the position of said reflective surface relative to said elongated handle such that said at least one air orifice and said at least one water orifice are directed at said reflective surface, wherein said means for aligning the position of said reflective surface to said elongated handle such that said at least one air orifice and said at least one water orifice are directed at said reflective surface is formed in said handle.

Claim 9 (Currently amended) The self cleaning dental mirror of Claim 8 wherein said means for aligning further comprises a means for locking the position of said reflective surface to prevent longitudinal translation relative to said elongated handle, wherein said locking means is formed in said handle.

Claim 10 (Cancelled)

Claim 11 (Currently amended) A self cleaning dental mirror comprising:

an elongated handle;

a reflective surface affixed to a first end of said elongated handle;

means for communicating air through said elongated handle to at least one air orifice directing air at said reflective surface;

means for communicating water through said elongated handle to at least one water orifice directing air at said reflective surface;

an air valve means incorporated within said elongated handle for controlling air flow to said at least one air orifice directing air at said reflective surface; and

a water valve means incorporated within said elongated handle for controlling water flow to said at least one water orifice directing water at said reflective surface;

wherein said air valve means and said water valve means comprise field replaceable pushbutton valves; and

[The self cleaning dental mirror of Claim 1] wherein said at least one air orifice and said at least one water orifice are arranged such that said at least one water orifice is encircled by multiple air orifices to disperse water as it is emitted from said at least one water orifice.

Claim 12 (Currently amended)A self cleaning dental mirror comprising:

an elongated handle;

a reflective surface affixed to a first end of said elongated handle;

means for communicating air through said elongated handle to at least one air orifice directing air at said reflective surface;

means for communicating water through said elongated handle to at least one water orifice directing air at said reflective surface;

an air valve means incorporated within said elongated handle for controlling air flow to said at least one air orifice directing air at said reflective surface; and

a water valve means incorporated within said elongated handle for controlling water flow to said at least one water orifice directing water at said reflective surface;

wherein said air valve means and said water valve means comprise field replaceable pushbutton valves; and

[The self cleaning dental mirror of Claim 1] wherein said means for communicating air and means for communicating water are concentric and extend the length of the handle to dispense water expelled from said at least one water orifice [, further comprising means for precise titration of air and water].

Claim 13 (Cancelled)

Claim 14 (Cancelled)

Claim 15 (Cancelled)

Claim 16 (Cancelled)

Claim 17 (Cancelled)

Claim 18 (Currently amended) The self cleaning dental mirror of Claim 9 wherein said means for aligning comprises a geometrically shaped shank and a correspondingly geometrically shaped sleeve formed in said handle.

Claim 19 (Currently amended) A self cleaning dental mirror comprising:

an elongated handle;

a reflective surface affixed to a first end of said elongated handle;

means for communicating air through said elongated handle to at least one air orifice directing air at said reflective surface;

means for communicating water through said elongated handle to at least one water orifice directing air at said reflective surface;

an air valve means incorporated within said elongated handle for controlling air flow to said at least one air orifice directing air at said reflective surface; and

a water valve means incorporated within said elongated handle for controlling water flow to said at least one water orifice directing water at said reflective surface;

wherein said air valve means and said water valve means comprise field replaceable pushbutton valves; and

[The self cleaning dental mirror of Claim 1] wherein a water jet is surrounded by air jets.

Claim 20 (Cancelled)

Claim 21 (Currently amended) The self cleaning dental mirror of Claim [20] 18 wherein said means for locking holds said reflective surface is maintained a desired distance from said at least one water orifice and said at least one air orifice.

Claim 22 (New) A self cleaning dental mirror comprising:

an elongated handle;

a reflective surface affixed to a first end of said elongated handle;

means for communicating air through said elongated handle to at least one air orifice directing air at said reflective surface;

means for communicating water through said elongated handle to at least one water orifice directing air at said reflective surface;

an air valve means incorporated within said elongated handle for controlling air flow to said at least one air orifice directing air at said reflective surface;

a water valve means incorporated within said elongated handle for controlling water flow to said at least one water orifice directing water at said reflective surface;

and

a means for aligning the position of said reflective surface relative to said elongated handle such that said at least one air orifice and said at least one water orifice are directed at said reflective surface, wherein said means for aligning the

position of said reflective surface to said elongated handle such that said at least one air orifice and said at least one water orifice are directed at said reflective surface is formed in said handle.

Claim 23 (New) The self cleaning dental mirror of Claim 22 wherein said means for aligning further comprises a means for locking the position of said reflective surface to prevent longitudinal translation relative to said elongated handle, wherein said locking means is formed in said handle.

Claim 24 (New) A self cleaning dental mirror comprising:

- an elongated handle;

- a reflective surface affixed to a first end of said elongated handle;

- means for communicating air through said elongated handle to at least one air orifice directing air at said reflective surface;

- means for communicating water through said elongated handle to at least one water orifice directing air at said reflective surface;

- an air valve means incorporated within said elongated handle for controlling air flow to said at least one air orifice directing air at said reflective surface; and

- a water valve means incorporated within said elongated handle for controlling water flow to said at least one water orifice directing water at said reflective surface;

- wherein said at least one air orifice and said at least one water orifice are arranged such that said at least one water orifice is encircled by multiple air orifices to disperse water as it is emitted from said at least one water orifice.

Claim 25 (New) A self cleaning dental mirror comprising:

- an elongated handle;

a reflective surface affixed to a first end of said elongated handle;
means for communicating air through said elongated handle to at least one air orifice directing air at said reflective surface;

means for communicating water through said elongated handle to at least one water orifice directing air at said reflective surface;

an air valve means incorporated within said elongated handle for controlling air flow to said at least one air orifice directing air at said reflective surface; and

a water valve means incorporated within said elongated handle for controlling water flow to said at least one water orifice directing water at said reflective surface;

wherein said means for communicating air and means for communicating water are concentric and extend the length of the handle to dispense water expelled from said at least one water orifice.

Claim 26 (New) The self cleaning dental mirror of Claim 23 wherein said means for aligning comprises a geometrically shaped shank and a correspondingly geometrically shaped sleeve formed in said handle.

Claim 27 (New) A self cleaning dental mirror comprising:

an elongated handle;

a reflective surface affixed to a first end of said elongated handle;

means for communicating air through said elongated handle to at least one air orifice directing air at said reflective surface;

means for communicating water through said elongated handle to at least one water orifice directing air at said reflective surface;

an air valve means incorporated within said elongated handle for controlling air

flow to said at least one air orifice directing air at said reflective surface; and

a water valve means incorporated within said elongated handle for controlling water flow to said at least one water orifice directing water at said reflective surface;

wherein a water jet is surrounded by air jets.

Claim 28 (New) The self cleaning dental mirror of Claim 26 wherein said means for locking holds said reflective surface is maintained a desired distance from said at least one water orifice and said at least one air orifice.